

**It takes diligence to train our children in good character and praise them each day. However, the end results are worth every sacrifice. This letter has tips to help you at home as you reinforce the character training that your child is learning in our karate classes.**

1. If you invest a few minutes a day and implement some of the ideas in this monthly letter at home you will help your child get SO MUCH MORE out of the time you spend at our school as well as establish patterns for successful behavior as adults.
2. You may not have interest or time to read this entire newsletter. However, please take a few seconds and just scan through the different topics.
3. Try it for a month! Print out this newsletter, and then each day pick something to discuss and practice with your children.
4. **Here is an idea: We have five 'I wills', one scripture, and one definition. That is seven things total. What I try to do is take one of those seven things and discuss it, explain it, and catch my child doing it and applying it that day. Or, if they missed an opportunity to apply it I try to show them how they could have used it. So after one week, I will have reviewed all seven and I repeat it each week of the month.**

**I take very seriously the opportunity you give me by allowing me to partner with you to teach your child the things of God.** So, I ask and encourage you to help me with your prayers. Please join us in prayer every class your child attends for God to open his or her eyes, ears, and heart to understand and apply His truth that we will be sharing that day. **Also, please pray for us** that we would be good stewards of the time you have given us with your child and we would be faithful witnesses of our Lord and His word. **Every class, every time, please join with us in prayer. No Prayer – No Power. Much prayer – Much Power.**

## **The Power of a Partnership and Consistency**

**I hope for the chance** to expose your child to sound Biblical Character Training **over a long period of time**. And Lord willing, the longer the term of exposure to this curriculum the **BIGGER** the impact will be on your child and what he or she can achieve in life... **keeping in mind that life is all about the glory of God.**

**And your child will be exposed to this character building curriculum everyday you visit our school!**

Enjoy the Parent preview below:

# HOSPITALITY vs. LONELINESS Parent Preview

## Definition for Class:

**HOSPITALITY** is cheerfully sharing food, shelter, and friendship with others.

Other definitions:

- **HOSPITALITY** is using what God has given us to demonstrate His love for others.
- **True hospitality is bringing guests to a home which the character of Christ is being demonstrated on a daily basis.**
- **Hospitality begins with an inventory of the physical and spiritual resources we can share with our guests.** “The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.”<sup>Matthew 12:35</sup>
- **One who practices hospitality takes on the work of Jesus Christ and becomes a channel of His love to others.** ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’  
Matthew 25:40
- **Cheerfully sharing food, shelter, or conversation to benefit others.**

## Application for Home and Life Skills Development:

**WHY TEACH HOSPITALITY?** Hospitality requires a focus beyond oneself to see the needs of others. When visitors come to your home, hospitable children do what they can to make their guests feel welcome and important.

1. I will welcome visitors
1. I will make others feel important.
1. I will prepare for guests.
1. I will gladly share my things.
1. I will not expect anything in return.

## Scripture Memory for class:

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews 13:2 (ESV)

**Commentaries on Hospitality at bottom of this letter**

## Hospitality in Balance

We must guard against carelessly welcoming those into our child’s life who might have a damaging influence. The benefit of hospitality must also be balanced against the cost of responsibility. Extra time and money used to make others feel important can easily displace personal responsibilities to one’s own family. Keeping

hospitality in balance is not easy. It requires every parent to count the cost and to guard against becoming over-committed to others.

## The Concept of Hospitality

America's pioneers knew the importance of being good neighbors. On the wild frontier, they depended on each other's hospitality in both times of danger and times of peace.

People still face many uncharted frontiers whether a new co-worker, a new student, or a new neighbor down the street, both children and adults still need hospitality to feel welcome in new situations.

The opposite of hospitality is loneliness. It is no wonder that people who refuse to share or invest in others often feel alone and rejected. However, if they reach out and sacrificially meet others' needs, meaningful friendships will usually replace voids of loneliness.

## Ways Children Can Show Loyalty to Their Family

- Serve their parents by helping with household chores and taking care of younger brothers and sisters.
- Help your family in hard times by encouraging parents and siblings when they struggle.
- Say good things about their parents and siblings and not tell everyone about their faults.
- It is easy to find faults in brothers and sisters, but if children look for the good qualities in their siblings' lives, and praise them in these areas, they will have much better relationships.

## Praising Character vs. Achievement!

Mentorship comes in many styles and packages. Yet it has been proven over and over that children respect and learn from those who demonstrate true concern and genuine love toward them.

- Listen more than you talk
- Ask more than you tell
- Do more than you promise
- Praise more than you correct
- Show up more often than you offer regrets
- Challenge more than you excuse
- Point out good qualities more than bad qualities

## Ways to Praise

### **PRAISE CHILDREN FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

- Helping others.
- Sharing
- Speaking to, making eye contact with, and being attentive to guests in your home
- Showing initiative by contributing to the preparations of a guest arriving at your home such as cleaning or decorating
- Showing sensitivity to the needs of guests

## Illustrations Used in KK4C Class

Along with teaching and expanding on the above definition, the 'I Wills', and scripture, **HOSPITALITY** will be illustrated using:

- **The Character Card of the Month – HOSPITALITY in nature with the BIGHORN SHEEP.**  
Among bighorn sheep the most mature female leads the flock to find food and shelter in times of need. Her vigilance and unselfishness qualities allow others to eat first while she stands guard. Among domestic sheep she is called a “bellwether.” A bellwether wears a bell so that shepherds can find their flock easily. Wherever the bellwether goes, the rest of the flock always follows..
- **Hero’s of Character with Chief Massasoit** – When things seemed hopeless for the pilgrims in 1620, a man and his tribe of Wampanoag Indians came to their rescue. Chief Massasoit welcomed the Pilgrims and signed a treaty of peace and protection which the new settlers honored for years.

## Character Card Tips

Character is useless unless it is a part of everyday life. Use the character cards and join with us in teaching your child the ‘I wills’ by saying, “Here are ways you can practice **HOSPITALITY**.” Then read the “I wills” on the back of the card.

Then elaborate on each one from your own life sharing personal illustrations of when you did what was right or did something that was wrong. Be sure to emphasize that there were benefits to right choices and consequences to wrong choices.

## Personal Evaluation – How HOSPITABLE are you?

1. Have you purposed to develop a spirit of hospitality and to use your home to demonstrate it?
2. Have you removed from your home clutter that would be a distraction to visitors?
3. Have you taught each member of your family to practice etiquette whether or not there are visitors in the home?
4. Have you learned specific questions to ask in order to develop friendships with your guests?
5. When you invite others into your home, is your goal to make them comfortable, or is it to impress them with your home?
6. Do you have items in your home that reflect answers to prayer or are testimonies of God’s power?
7. During conversation, do you focus on the interests of your guests or on the things you and your family have done?
8. Have you prepared family activities, such as quoting a passage of Scripture or playing music, that would encourage your guests?
9. Do you have a peaceful atmosphere in your home, with appropriate music and a spirit of harmony among family members?
10. Do you have anything in your home that would offend a visitor?

## HOSPITALITY in the Home Includes:

- Being friendly to others by talking with neighbors.
- Preparing for guests by organizing and cleaning the home and preparing meals.

- Daily practicing both good etiquette and conversational skills to use with guests.
- Diligently keeping the house free of clutter to make the home available and ready for unexpected guests.

## Rewards of HOSPITALITY

- **INFLUENCE** – Those whom you bring into your home to share a meal will be significantly influenced by your genuine care for them..
- **ROLE MODELS** – A big impact on your children’s lives is made by the wise, older people who are invited to your home as they share stories of character in action from their own lives.

## Biblical Commentaries on HOSPITALITY

Where there is true Christian love, there will also be *hospitality* (Heb. 13:2). This was an important ministry in the early church because persecution drove many believers away from their homes. Also, there were traveling ministers who needed places to stay (3 John 5–8). Many poor saints could not afford to stay in an inn; and since the churches met in homes (Rom. 16:5), it was natural for a visitor to just stay with his host. Pastors are supposed to be lovers of hospitality (Titus 1:8); but all saints should be “given to hospitality” (Rom. 12:13).

Moses (Gen. 18) gives the story of Abraham showing generous hospitality to Jesus Christ and two of His angels. Abraham did not know who they were when he welcomed them; it was only later that he discovered the identities of his illustrious guests. You and I may not entertain angels in a literal sense (though it is possible); but *any* stranger could turn out to be a messenger of blessing to us. (The word “angel” simply means “messenger.”) Often we have had guests in our home who have turned out to be messengers of God’s blessings.

1

### Commanded.

**Rom 12:13** distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

**1 Pet 4:9** *Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.*

### Required in ministers.

**1 Tim 3:2** A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;

**Titus 1:8** but hospitable, a lover of what is good, soberminded, just, holy, self-controlled,

### A test of Christian character.

**1 Tim 5:10** well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints’ feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.

### Specially to be shown to

*Strangers.*

**Heb 13:2** Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so *doing* some have unwittingly entertained angels.

*The poor.*

**Is 58:7** *Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?*

**Luke 14:13** But when you give a feast, invite *the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind.*

*Enemies.*

---

<sup>1</sup>Wiersbe, W. W. (1996, c1989). *The Bible exposition commentary*. "An exposition of the New Testament comprising the entire 'BE' series"--Jkt. (Heb 13:1). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.

**2 Kin 6:22–23** But he answered, “You shall not kill *them*. Would you kill those whom you have taken captive with your sword and your bow? Set food and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master.” **23** Then he prepared a great feast for them; and after they ate and drank, he sent them away and they went to their master. So the bands of Syrian *raiders* came no more into the land of Israel.

**Rom 12:20** Therefore “*If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.*”

#### **Encouragement to.**

**Luke 14:14** And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

**Heb 13:2** Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so *doing* some have unwittingly entertained angels.

2

**HOSPITALITY** — the practice of entertaining strangers graciously. Hospitality was a very important trait in Bible times. In the New Testament, the Greek word translated “hospitality” literally means “love of strangers” (Rom. 12:13). In the Old Testament, Abraham was the host to angels unaware; he invited strangers into his house, washed their feet, prepared fresh meat, had Sarah bake bread, and later accompanied them as they left (Gen. 18:1–15). Even today a traditional greeting to the guests among the Bedouin people of the Middle East is “You are among your family.”

Hospitality was specifically commanded by God (Lev. 19:33–34; Luke 14:13–14; Rom. 12:13). It was to be characteristic of all believers (1 Pet. 4:9), especially bishops (Titus 1:7–8; 1 Tim. 3:2). Jesus emphasized the importance of hospitality by answering the question of who should inherit the kingdom: “I was a stranger and you took Me in” (Matt. 25:35).

Several Old Testament personalities set a good example for all believers in the practice of hospitality. These included Abraham (Gen. 18:1–8); David (2 Sam. 6:19); the Shunammite woman (2 Kin. 4:8–10); Nehemiah (Neh. 5:17–18); and Job (Job 31:17–20).

Psalm 23 concludes with a portrait of a host who prepares a table for the weary, anoints the head of the guest with oil, and shows every kindness so that the guest’s cup runs over. The psalmist sees the Lord Himself as Host; His hospitality exceeds all others.

The New Testament also gives examples of gracious hospitality: Mary (Matt. 26:6–13); Martha (Luke 10:38); the early Christians (Acts 2:45–46); Lydia (Acts 16:14–15); and Priscilla and Aquila (Acts 18:26).

3

*Character First! Education Series 3, Booklet 3, Oak Brook, IL; Achieving True Success; The Power of True Success*

**Adam Schainblatt’s Karate Kids For Christ - 10940 Raven Ridge Rd., Ste 118; Raleigh, NC 27614 (919) 870-0525 [www.Karate-Kids.org](http://www.Karate-Kids.org)**

---

<sup>2</sup>MacArthur, J. (1999). *The MacArthur topical Bible : New King James Version* (622). Nashville, Tenn.: Word Pub.

<sup>3</sup>Youngblood, R. F., Bruce, F. F., Harrison, R. K., & Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1995). *Nelson’s new illustrated Bible dictionary*. Rev. ed. of: Nelson’s illustrated Bible dictionary.; Includes index. Nashville: T. Nelson.